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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: R. Hoffman

Group Art Unit: 2161

Serial No.: 09/755,488

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For: SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR REQUESTING A QUOTATION

Assistant Commissioner for
Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sirs:

Preliminary to Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, delete lines 12-19 and insert the following:

-- Figure 1 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figures 2A and 2B, when joined at match line A-A, illustrate an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figures 3A and 3B, when joined at match line A-A, illustrate an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figure 4 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figure 5 illustrates an example of a Sample flow chart.

Figures 6A, 6B and 6C, when joined at match lines A-A and B-B, illustrates an example of a Procurement flow chart.

Figures 7A and 7B, when joined at match line A-A, illustrate an example of a Delivery flow chart.

Figures 8A, 8B and 8C illustrates an example of Receiving flow chart. --

check of the buyers. It is an object of the present invention to provide a list of credit references of each buyer.

It is an object of the present invention to allow a buyer to request a sample from a seller. It is an object of the present invention to inform a seller if a sample of a product can be provided to a seller and provide information to the seller about the sample and when it will be delivered.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a means for brokers to act as selling agents for companies who do not want to sell to any buyer directly.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a glossary; standard format data on a wide variety of product attributes and an industry – specific search engine.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

2A and 2B, when joined at match line A-A,
Figure 2 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

3A and 3B, when joined at match line A-A,
Figure 3 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figure 4 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation flow chart.

Figure 5 illustrates an example of a Sample flow chart.

6A, 6B and 6C, when joined at match lines A-A and B-B,
Figure 6 illustrates an example of a Procurement flow chart.

7A and 7B, when joined at match line A-A,
Figure 7 illustrates an example of a Delivery flow chart.

8A, 8B and 8C,
Figure 8 illustrates an example of a Receiving flow chart.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Figure 1 illustrates an example of a Request for Quotation (RFQ) flow chart where a buyer creates and submits an RFQ. A buyer has a need for a specific product 10. The buyer creates an RFQ form 20. The buyer in the RFQ selects product specifications

REMARKS

The above amendment was made to correct the brief description of the drawings to conform to the formal drawings being submitted concurrently herewith. No new matter has been added.

A clean version of the replacement paragraphs is provided above. Applicant is also enclosing a copy of the original page 4 of the specification, marked up, showing the amendment made herein.

It is believed that the application is now in condition for examination.

Dated: 3/20/01

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 3/20/01

